



Elder Willis Brown
memories 1843

Vol. 1
Official File
Birmingham Baptist
Association.

Secured by
M M Wood &
J D Ray.

1833 to 1873.

Ely - in constitution
etc. & 33 + developed in
1846





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
Lyrasis Members and Sloan Foundation

MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-Sixth Annual Session
OF THE
CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
HELD WITH THE
CAHABA CHURCH,

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA.,

October, the 2nd,

1869.

ELYTON,

PRINTED AT THE JOB OFFICE OF THE HERALD.



MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-Sixth Annual Session
OF THE
CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
HELD WITH THE
CAHABA CHURCH,
JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA.,
October, the 2nd,
1839.

ELYTON,

PRINTED AT THE JOB OFFICE OF THE HERALD

MINUTES.

1. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder James Grimes.
2. After a recess of one hour the Delegates assembled in the Meeting House, and the Association was called to order and organized by the former Moderator, Elder A. J. Waldrop. The former Clerk being absent, appointed Elder J. Grimes *pro. tem.*
3. Then went into the election of officers, which election resulted in the choice of Elder A. J. Waldrop Moderator, Elder James Grimes Clerk, and E. B. Waldrop Corresponding Secretary.
4. Called for and read the letters from the churches. J. Grimes and E. B. Waldrop appointed to read.
5. Opened the door for the admission of newly constituted churches. None.
6. Ministers present were invited to seats. Elder M. Hendricks being present took his seat.
7. Called for Correspondence from the Tex Island. Elder P. S. Montgomery and Wm. Clark with a letter, the Moderator gave them the right of fellowship.
8. From the North River letter and minutes by J. A. Hill.

9. From Cahaba Valley Bro. Taylor.
10. Committees appointed. On preaching, the Deacons of Cahaba Church, J. Carlisle M K Vann, and James Grimes and John Franklin added.
11. On Finance A G Waldrop and W H Wood.
12. On Documents James Hickman and J L Meggs
13. On Arrangements John Hefner, John Wilks, T F Waldrop, the Clerk and Moderator added to the Committee.
14. On motion agreed to raise a committee of three to take into consideration the subject of the Orphans Home, whereupon W H Wood, E B Waldrop, T F Waldrop and W D Lovett were appointed, and were requested to make their report on Monday morning.

Sunday, Oct. 3d.

15. The Services were conducted as arranged by the Committee on Preaching. The Missionary Sermon was preached by Elder A J Waldrop. Afternoon Service by Bro. Hill, agent for the Orphans Home.

Monday Morning, Oct. 4 h.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.— After Singing and Prayer, proceeded to business.

16. Called for the Report of the Committee on Arrangements. Received and adopted as the order of the day.

17. Returned Correspondence. To Shelby, J Grimes, A J Waldrop.
18. To the Ten Island, A J Waldrop, J Grimes.
19. To the North River, B S Thompson and Daniel Harris.
20. To the Tuscaloosa, J H Hickman and Elder W S Rogers.

21 To Coosa River, Joel Carlisle and J Grimes.
 22. Called for Report on Temperance. No report.
 23. Called for Report on Sabbath-Schools. None.
 24. Called for Report on Home and Foreign Mis-
 sions. Report received and ordered to be spread on
 the Minutes.

25 Called for Report on Education. Report received
 and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

26. Called for Report on the Orphans Home. Re-
 port received and adopted and to be spread on the
 Minutes.

27. Called for the Circular Letter prepared by A
 J Waldrop. Read, received and adopted, and ordered
 to be spread on the Minutes.

28. On motion appointed a committee of five, viz :
 John Hofner, John H Waldrop, B S Thompson, S B
 Robbins and James H Hickman, to divide the Asso-
 ciations into two Districts, and make their Report du-
 ring the present Session.

29. Called for Querics and Resolutions.

Query—1st. How shall we increase the Ministry
 in our bounds? 2nd.—And what shall be done for
 the Ministry of the Word of Life?

Answer—1st. That we pray the Lord of the harvest
 to send more laborers into the harvest. 2nd. That
 we support them according to the teaching of God's
 word.

30. Appointed a committee of three, viz : A J
 Waldrop, W D Lovett and G T Deason, whose duty it
 shall be to take into consideration the scarcity of Min-
 isters, and to aid in establishing if practicable, a school
 of high order in our bounds, where Ministers may re-

ceive a liberal education. This Committee to make their report at our next Session.

31. Appointed the next meeting of this body to be held with Rock Creek Church, Jefferson County, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the first Lord's day in October, 1870.

32. Elected Elder James Grimes to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elisha B Waldrop, Alternate, Elder A J Waldrop to preach the Missionary Sermon, and Elder W S Rogers, Alternate.

33. On motion appointed the following brethren to the Baptist State Convention, viz: A J Waldrop, T F Waldrop, J Grimes, W H Wood, E B Waldrop, G T Deason, Dr. Robertson and John Franklin. On motion, adjourned till after dinner, 2 o'clock.

34. On motion appointed a committee of five to co-operate with the Corporators of the Orphan's Home.

35. Called for the Report of the Treasurer. Report received and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

36. Called for the Report of the Committee on Finance. Report received and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

37. On motion agreed to receive the Association book, prepared by Bro. Grimes, and paid him ten dollars for his services.

38. Ordered that the Treasurer pay over all monies in his hands for the different objects specified.

39. Ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes, and receive seventy five copies for Correspondence and receive ten dollars for his services.

40. On motion appointed Bro. W D Lovett to write a Circular for the next Association.

41. On motion agreed to raise a Committee of three, viz: W H Wood, G T Deason and J B Vann, to raise funds for the building of a Baptist church at Elyton, and to secure an efficient Minister for that object.

42. Received and adopted the Report of the Committee on District Meetings.

43. Appointed Elder J Grimes to preach the Introductory Sermon for the first District, at Shady Grove Church, on the first Sabbath in August next.— B S Thompson, A J Waldrop to preach the Introductory Sermon for the 2nd District, at Central Church, on the 2nd Sabbath in July next, E B Waldrop Alternate.

44. Committees appointed.

45. On Temperance. — T F Waldrop Joel Cawle and J M Franklin.

46. On Sabbath-Schools. E B Waldrop, W H Wood and N D Tally.

47. On Education. G T Deason, O W Wood and McDonald.

48. On Home and Foreign Missions, J Grimes, W Rogers and J H Hickman.

49. On motion, called for the Report on Deacon's. Report received and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

50. On motion the Association agreed to adjourn until the time and place above stated, the brethren then sang a hymn, and took the parting hand. Prayer by Bro. J A Hill, adj.

AMES GRIMES, Clerk. A. J. WALDROP, Moderator.

REPORT ON HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions beg leave to report that owing to the great destitution at home, and the present condition of the country just recovering from the terrible ravages of the late war, and the limited means of the people in consequence of this, in their opinion, it would not be best to undertake to do any thing at present, in a foreign field, but seek to concentrate the means and ability of the Churches composing the Association, within their own bounds.

The Association is growing in strength very little, if any. The Churches are not generally in a flourishing, lively condition. The Ministry is not strong, and the Membership is not zealous.

Church discipline is not rigid, and there is a general apathy and coldness that should be alarming.

There should be a reformation at home first, a live membership and an efficient ministry, then after that shall have been brought about, will be the proper time to look to Foreign fields.

The Committee think that there should be a Baptist Church in the Town of Elyton, and that it is the duty of this Association to raise funds to assist in building a house of worship, and to secure the services of an efficient Minister for that place. They are of opinion also that means should be provided to assist young ministers, and those intending to engage in ministry, in acquiring an education suitable for the position, and that all proper encouragement should be given to pious young men of good natural ability, to fit themselves

for and engage in the work of the ministry.

By laboring to revive and strengthen churches now existing, by building up others in places now destitute within the territory comprising the Association, by educating and sending out a number of pious Ministers, your Committee think you will accomplish a good and permanent Missionary work and the most practicable one possible at this time, and by these means we would greatly strengthen the cause of Christianity, and build up the church, all of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WOOD, C. H.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Documents report that we have examined the documents before us, and find that other Associations are greatly in advance of us in prosecuting the plans of their internal prosperity. They foster benevolent institutions, and efforts are made to educate the rising generation. We find from the churches in our bounds that many of them complain of coldness and declension. We recommend to the churches in our bounds, to try to promote the cause of Sabbath Schools, Ministerial support, Religious Institutions, the distribution of denominational books, newspapers, and Foreign and Domestic Missions, let us encourage the exercise of gifts of every kind that tends to elevate character, improve morals, and all things that may be made beneficial to the great cause of Christ, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Jno. H. HICKMAN.

REPORT OF COMMIS'S ON ORPHAN'S HOME.

Your Committee appointed to investigate and report upon the subject of doing something toward securing and providing a home for the orphans of Ala., beg leave to report that while we feel the obligation resting upon us to do something for the poor and homeless, and while we remember that pure and modified religion before God and Father is this to resist the fatherless, the widows &c, is binding upon us as Christ's representatives on earth, we recommend that the Association take immediate action upon the subject, and as we are now being visited by Bro. J. Albert Hill, who was once acting as an agent for the Orphan's Home at Landudale Springs, Miss, but who is now working for an organization in Ala., we, as a committee having named also that a meeting of Corporators who were appointed by the Legislature of Alabama will be held at Oxford, Ala., in November next, looking to an organization of this character we recommend that a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to attend said meeting of corporators and to assist in the good work.

W. H. WOOD, Ch.

TREASURFR'S REPORT.

Received of Com. on Finance for Minutes,	\$33 00.
For Domestic Missions;	\$39 00.

\$72 25.

Paid for Minutes.	\$27 65.
Paid for Domestic Missions,	\$32 25.

Remaining in the Treasury, \$12 35.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the Churches of the Canaan Association you will look for something in the form of a Circular Letter from me to be appended to your Minutes for 1869.

Allow us to offer a few remarks upon the subject and importance of "union of sentiment and effort."— We as a denomination occupy a peculiar position to our immediate circle and to the world, for if our peculiar texts are true, then ours is the only Scriptural church organization upon earth, we contend there is but one Scriptural model given by Divine authority for a church organization, and the same Code of Laws contained in the Bible for its government throughout the world.

We do not propose now to enter into a defence of our peculiarities, but take it for granted that our membership believe what we profess to believe, and hope all others will accord to us sufficient honesty as to believe us sincere.

Dear brethren, you see at once the awful magnitude of our responsibility, for if we constitute a part of that Kingdom which was set up by the God of Heaven in the days of "those Kings," which was to fill the whole earth—how important then it is that we should be of one mind and one heart. All are aware when divisions exist among us in sentiment or effort that the cause so far as our instrumentality is concerned is hindered. We fear there is a sickly instrumentality with

some of us--some for Paul, some for Apollas, some for Cephas and some for Christ.

We would we were all for Christ with our whole hearts, both in sentiment and effort, filled with that spirit from on high, which prompts the enquiry "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

We believe at the present period that the actions of our people based upon a difference of opinion upon important subjects which agitate the public mind, tend more to retard the prosperity of the Redeemed Kingdom than all the outside powers combined.

We have assumed in this paper that our Church is that Kingdom which Christ set up and which he commands us to occupy until he should come. If we are correct in our premises the conclusion is inevitable that *we are the light of the world*, that it is our duty to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints, how then can we best exhibit our light to the world and contend for that faith once delivered to the saints. These are grave questions. Let us study them in the light of God's word. Let us look abroad, what are the enemies of our holy religion attempting to do? See Romanism coming in like a flood, and we are the only organization it seems to me that can successfully battle against the errors of this mother of harlots—this abomination of the earth, we must meet her—the battle must be fought—*will be fought*. She is already making active preparations for the conflict. How can we meet her rush, but by educating our young men who are hopefully called of God for the work of the Ministry, that they may be able to meet the Romanist and battle with him successfully and thus "contend

for the faith," when I say battle I mean to fight spiritual battles, but in order to do this successfully, he must not only be a man of God, of prayer and of faith, but he must be educated that he may be able to read the word of God in the right languages in which way only is he likely to succeed in this department of his ministry. Rome spares no pains nor money that her Ministers may be able to defend their doctrine. Now, if so much is being done by a false church so-called to propagate a false religion, what should not we do who are contending for the true faith, the faith of the Bible. Since our Lord will not hold us guiltless if we fail to be actively, earnestly and faithfully engaged in defense of that truth which should be dear to every lover of our Lord Jesus Christ.

But Rome is not the only foe, we have the world, the flesh and satan, all combined as our foes. Let us then gird ourselves with truth and give the enemies of our holy religion no quarters, but meet spiritual wickedness in high as well as low places, and do and suffer and labor for the cause of our Holy Christianity.

STATISTICS FOR 1869.

FIRST DISTRICT.—GOOD HOPE Jefferson Co T B Robbins
W D Goggans W B Corley, Delegates. Baptised 6 received by
letter 4 dead 1 total in fellowship 49 funds for minutes \$2 00
funds for association purposes \$2 25.

NEW BETHEL W J McCrary J C McCrary, delegates.—
Baptised 1 dismissed 10 dead 1 total in fellowship 30 funds for
minutes \$1 65.

MUD CREEK L D Martin delegate. Funds for minutes 60c.

ROCK CREEK J H Waldrop J Vines J L Meggs A G Al-

drop delegates. Baptised 27 received by letter 8 restored 1 dismissed 16 excluded 5 total in fellowship 154 funds for minutes \$5.

BIG CREEK, D Franklin delegate. Dismissed 1 dead 1 total in fellowship 27 funds for minutes 60 cents.

SARDIS, not represented.

PLEASANT GROVE, T M Parsons, delegate. Baptised 1 dismissed 3 excluded 2 total in fellowship 44.

ROOPS VALLEY, J Baker J H Hickman delegates. Baptised 1 received by letter 4 restored 1 dismissed 7 excluded 3 dead 2 total in fellowship 43 funds for minutes \$1 for association \$1.

PRUDES CREEK, Tuscaloosa County. R Stone B S Thompson delegates. Baptised 1 received by letter 2 excluded 4 total in fellowship 30 funds for minutes \$1 00.

SHADY GROVE, Shelby Co, A J Flemming, delegate. Received by letter 2 dead 1 total in fellowship 51 funds for minutes \$ 1 00.

CANAAN, Jefferson Co, James Grimes, delegate. Dismissed 2 excluded 1 total in fellowship 50 funds for minutes \$1 00.

SULPHUR SPRINGS, J H Wilkes T F Waldrop J T Eu bank and E Robinson. Received by letter 7 dismissed 5 total in fellowship 63 funds for minutes \$ 300. funds for assoc' pur \$5.

SECOND DISTRICT, FRIENDSHIP, St Clair Co, B Crow delegate. Total in fellowship 21 funds for minutes \$ 2 00.

Mt ZION, St Clair Co, R Blythe H Pierson and M Pierce delegates. Received by letter 1 excluded 2 total in fellowship 72 funds for minutes \$385.

CENTRAL Jefferson county, J Heiner T A Melton and J H Frazier delegates. Baptised 2 received by letter 1 restored 1 dismissed 12 excluded 1 total in fellowship 49 funds for minutes \$200 funds for association purposes 55 cents.

CAHABA Jefferson county, J. Carlisle M. K. Vann S. T. Vann W. D. Massey delegates. received by letter 10 dismissed 10 dead 3 total in fellowship 100 funds for minutes \$500 funds for association purposes \$3 00.

SALEM, T A Anderson J W Johnson delegates. Baptised 3 dismissed 3 total in fellowship 48 funds for minutes \$1 85.

VILLAGE SPRINGS, not represented.

RUHANA, A J Waldrop W H Wood E B Waldrop O W Wood delegates. Baptised 1 dismissed 5 excluded 1 dead 2 total in

fellowship 112 funds for minutes \$2 50 funds for association purposes \$2 00.











